GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3892
ANSWERED ON:17.04.2002
SUICIDE BY BARC SCIENTISTS
RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been cases of suicide by scientists in BARC over the past many years;

(b) if so, the facts and the reasons thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been made about the working conditions etc. of the employees of BARC and variousmedia reports and representations about systematic torture of a scientist;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, when and how such enquiry will be conducted?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINIST OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE)

(a) & (b) There have been two cases of suicide by Scientists in the past nine years. The reasons for the suicides are not known.

(c) The working conditions, etc., of the employees of BARCare the same as those of other Units of the Department of Atomic Energy and similar to those of other Scientific Departments of the Government of India. Therefore, the necessity for conduct of any enquiry into the above does not arise. There was no `systematic torture` or any kind of harassment meted out to any scientist. The factual position was clarified to the media when the item appeared in the newspaper. A petition filed in the court in this regard by one complainant, was dismissed by the court.

(d) & (e) Do not arise in view of reply at (c) above.